

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 2, 4, 5, 7, 10, 12, 14, 17, and 20; cancel claims 1, 6, 8, 11, 16 and 18; and add new claims 21-26, as follows:

1. (Cancelled)

2. (Currently Amended) A method in accordance with claim #21, further comprising the step of extracting said first collagen portion from a tissue source prior to said ~~derivatizing~~ adding step.

3. (Original) A method in accordance with claim 2, wherein said tissue source includes an animal tissue.

4. (Currently Amended) A method in accordance with claim #22, wherein said derivatizing step includes a step of reacting said first collagen portion with 4-mercapto-1,8-naphthalic anhydride.

5. (Currently Amended) A method in accordance with claim #4, wherein said derivatizing step further includes a step of reaction with glutaric anhydride.

6. (Cancelled)

7. (Currently Amended) A method in accordance with claim #22, further comprising a step of adding a pH altering material to said derivatized first collagen portion to thereby adjust a pH of said ~~composition~~ mixture to be within a desired range of 6.8-7.8.

8. (Cancelled)

9. (Original) A method in accordance with claim 7, wherein said pH altering material includes NaOH.

10. (Currently Amended) A method in accordance with claim ~~1~~ ~~21~~, further comprising the step of adding a material to said mixture selected from the group of collagen fibrils, collagen fibers and collagen fiber bundles.

11. (Cancelled)

12. (Currently Amended) A method in accordance with claim ~~11~~ ~~23~~, further comprising the step of extracting said additional collagen from a tissue source prior to said adding step.

13. (Original) A method in accordance with claim 12, wherein said tissue source includes an animal tissue.

14. (Currently Amended) A method in accordance with claim ~~11~~ ~~24~~, wherein said derivatizing step includes a step of reacting said additional collagen with 4-mercaptop-1,8-naphthalic anhydride.

15. (Original) A method in accordance with claim 14, wherein said derivatizing step further includes a step of reaction with glutaric anhydride.

16. (Cancelled)

17. (Currently Amended) A method in accordance with claim ~~11~~ ~~24~~, further comprising a step of adding a pH altering material to said derivatized additional collagen to thereby adjust a pH of said composition mixture to be within a desired range of 6.8-7.8.

18. (Cancelled)

19. (Original) A method in accordance with claim 17, wherein said pH altering material includes NaOH.

20. (Currently Amended) A method in accordance with claim 11  
23, further comprising the step of adding a material to said  
mixture selected from the group of collagen fibrils, collagen  
fibers and collagen fiber bundles.

21. (New) A method of making a tissue adhesive,  
comprising the steps of:

adding a first collagen portion to a second collagen portion  
to obtain a mixture including said first and second collagen  
portions; and

heating said mixture to thereby obtain a desired collagen  
concentration associated with said mixture, said desired collagen  
concentration being at least equal to 300 mg/ml but not more than  
800 mg/ml.

22. (New) A method in accordance with claim 21, further  
comprising the step of derivatizing said first collagen portion  
with a functional group selected from  $\text{COO}^-$  and  $\text{SH}^-$ .

23. (New) A method of making a tissue adhesive, comprising  
the steps of:

adding additional collagen to a mixture including collagen;  
heating said mixture including said additional collagen; and  
repeating said adding and heating steps to thereby obtain a  
desired collagen concentration associated with said mixture, said  
desired concentration being at least 300 mg/ml but not more than  
800 mg/ml.

24. (New) A method in accordance with claim 23, further  
comprising the step of derivatizing said additional collagen with  
a functional group selected from  $\text{COO}^-$  and  $\text{SH}^-$ .

25. (New) A method in accordance with claim 21, further comprising the steps of:

solidifying said mixture; and  
sectioning said solidified mixture into strips.

26. (New) A method in accordance with claim 23, further comprising the steps of:

solidifying said mixture; and  
sectioning said solidified mixture into strips.